

INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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REVISIONS MADE IN CANNED FOOD SET-ASIDE ORDER

Tomato Purée, Plums, Prunes
Exempt; Percentages Are
Changed for 14 Others

Changes in the set-aside reservations for five canned fruit and nine canned vegetable items and the removal of two other foods from set-aside restrictions were announced Friday by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, through the issuance of Amendment 4 to War Food Orders 22.8 and 22.9, both effective August 5. Aside from the changes in reservation percentages, which are listed in the tables on page 8721, the text of the orders remain the same as reproduced on pages 8688 to 8691 in the July 7 INFORMATION LETTER.

BULLETIN

Ration points have been removed from canned tomato juice, mixed vegetable juices, grapefruit juice, and blended citrus juices, effective August 5. For details, see story page 8721.

Price Order Due Next Week

Pricing orders for 1945 may be issued between August 10 and 13, according to a telegram received Friday by Howard Cumming, Chairman of the Canned Fruits and Vegetables Advisory Committee. The wire, signed by George V. Rountree, Head of the Processed Fruits and Vegetables Section, Food Price Division, Office of Price Administration, was in response to an inquiry the committee sent OPA on July 30. Text of the wire follows:

Re Letter July 30. As nearly as we can ascertain 1945 pricing orders for most canned vegetables and canned fruits should be issued between August 10 and 13 to be effective shortly thereafter. We are now making all necessary arrangements for prompt printing in order that early distribution can be made.

Joint Development of Standards Activities by Manufacturing, Technical, Merchandising and Consumer Groups Recommended

Commerce Policy Body Urges Program Similar to That of N. C. A. Labeling Committee

Expressing the belief that standards will have an ever-increasing importance that will ultimately affect the production and sale of all goods and that provision must be made for their orderly development, the Policy Committee on Standards appointed by the Department of Commerce has submitted a report to Secretary Henry A. Wallace embodying recommendations as to the activities of the National Bureau of Standards and the American Standards Association and the procedure for development of standards. The report states:

"The Committee believes that standards activities which involve negotiation, opinion, judgment, or compromise, should be developed through individual and joint efforts of technical, manufacturing, merchandising and consumer groups.

"The Committee also believes that these efforts will need to be coordinated and promoted through a disinterested private agency organized to function in the broad public interest. It appears that this function can most logically be fulfilled by the American Standards Association.

"The Committee further believes that the scope of the American Standards Association should be broadened so that it can handle any standards or standardization project which deserves national recognition, whether for raw materials, intermediate goods, production goods, consumer goods, or for safety or for engineering or for commercial transactions; that the American Standards Association should be modified and strengthened so that it can manage this suggested broad program effectively; that the Association must make sure it includes in its activities all groups entitled to a voice in the adoption of standards as well as those competent to advise on consumer reactions; and that the American Standards Association maintain itself as a truly independent association privately financed, accomplishing its standards clearance and standards promotion voluntarily, with the full participation of all interests including those of the consumer.

"The broadened policy of the American Standards Association; the recognition by industry that retail customers

are entitled to adequate information about the product they buy; the development both by the National Bureau of Standards and by private agencies of definite laboratory and service testing—all these will make it possible eventually to supply the desired information to consumers in standardized definitions, terms, designations, and specifications of consumers' standards. Such a result will strengthen and enhance merchandising techniques, and stimulate competition in product improvement."

Recommendations of the Committee include:

"The Committee recommends that the National Bureau of Standards plan for a continuation of research in the field of standards and for future development of needed new testing methods, and that this be properly financed through Federal funds. The Bureau's facilities should be extended when and as necessary so that the Bureau may most effectively aid standardization projects.

"The Committee recommends that the Division of Simplified Practice and the Division of Trade Standards, now a budgetary part of the National Bureau of Standards, be transferred from the
(Concluded on page 8724)

CANNERS SUBSIDY PAYMENT RATES ARE ANNOUNCED

Increases for Canned Tomatoes
but Peas, Corn, Tomato Juice
Remain Unchanged

Rates of subsidy payments to canners of peas, sweet corn, and tomato juice under the 1945 canned vegetable subsidy program were announced jointly on August 2 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Office of Price Administration. (See INFORMATION LETTER for June 30 for announcement of 1945 subsidy program.) For these canned food items, the subsidy rate for sales made between May 1, 1945, and June 30, 1946 (both dates inclusive), will continue at the same rate as specified in the 1944 ceiling price regulations. These rates per dozen No. 2 size cans are as follows: Green peas, 20 cents; sweet corn, 8 cents; and tomato juice, 6 cents. Adjustments in the subsidy

rates will be made for these products packed in containers of other sizes.

For canned tomatoes, as announced on July 5 (see INFORMATION LETTER for July 7), the subsidy rate for sales between May 1, 1945, and June 30, 1946 (both dates inclusive), will be increased 6 cents per dozen for No. 2 cans, or to 18 cents, with proportionate adjustments for other container sizes. Subsidy rates for eligible pea soup and eligible tomato products including tomato soup, will be determined in the same manner as under the 1944 canned vegetable subsidy program, based on the difference between the 1945 grower support price per ton of raw product and the 1943 resale price of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Where open market purchases are made below grower support prices, the 1945 subsidy payments will be computed in the same manner as under the 1944 program.

Subsidy payment rates for canned green and wax beans will be announced at a later date, USDA and OPA stated.

Sales of Government-owned Foods Are Reported for June

Sales of government-owned surpluses of canned food items and dry beans and peas during June totaled \$647,300. Over 98 per cent, or \$637,365 of the sales consisted of canned peas and dry peas. Items sold and the sale price follow:

Commodity	Quantity Cases	Price
Milk, condensed.....	164	\$1.080
Milk, evaporated.....	750	1.500
Pumpkin.....	477	501
Peas.....	10,302	23.006
Potatoes.....	1,476	142
Tomatoes.....	2,309	5.346
Fish.....	18	153
Pounds		
Beans, dry.....	10,573,565	614.359
Garbanzo.....	101,750	1.018
Peas, dry.....	18,500	277

1945-46 School Lunch Program

Under the provisions of the 1945-46 Agricultural Appropriation Act, Congress has authorized the U. S. Department of Agriculture to use \$50,000,000 to help defray the cost of food in school lunch programs. Federal assistance will be administered in the same manner as it was last year.

During the 1944-45 fiscal year, participation in federally-assisted school lunch programs reached a new high. In March, 1945, 44,000 schools in every State, in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands—including six and one-half million children—were re-

ceiving financial assistance, or food supplied by the Department of Agriculture.

WFA Canned Food Purchases Listed for Six-month Period

Canned foods purchased by the U. S. Department of Agriculture during the period January 1 through June 30, 1945, for Lend-lease, Territorial emergency, Red Cross, and other purposes, totaled \$100,721,041. From a statement of these purchases, the following table has been compiled showing the quantities and the f.o.b. cost of the canned food products purchased during the six-month period:

Products	Quantity Cases	Cost
Canned fruits:		
Apples.....	2,286	\$9,028
Apricots (pie pack) ..	42,728	179,637
Apricots (syrup pack) ..	43,388	170,057
Peaches (pie pack) ..	48,505	180,775
Peaches (syrup pack) ..	13,821	70,019
Pears (syrup pack) ..	29,760	173,164
Prunes.....	18,984	48,441
Canned fruit juices:		
Grapefruit.....	11,600	31,703
Pineapple.....	5,000	16,800
Canned fruitades and squashes:		
Grapefruit.....	23,000	103,040
Lemon.....	39,500	180,515
Lime.....	23,000	109,710
Orange.....	39,500	202,240
Prepared juices:		
Lime.....	50,000	241,000
Canned vegetables:		
Beans, green.....	72,943	220,630
Beets.....	282,093	656,922
Carrots.....	312,843	648,287
Peas.....	115,637	325,063
Potatoes, white.....	252,422	747,755
Sauerkraut.....	5,300	16,536
Soybeans.....	100,000	171,200
Tomatoes.....	18,492	55,420
Tomato paste.....	286,648	1,553,963
Canned fish:		
Flaked fish.....	17,799	202,850
Ground fish.....	86,000	303,700
Herring.....	25,223	135,601
Mackerel.....	107,997	571,976
Pilchards.....	548,631	2,118,667
Salmon.....	447,636	4,638,637
Sardines.....	200,103	860,591
Squid.....	307,500	1,491,375
Tuna and tuna-like fish.....	61,422	651,316
Miscellaneous:		
Baked beans.....	294,429	1,352,681
Chow-chow.....	22,800	142,313
Pickles.....	22,220	119,311
Relish.....	10,702	66,221
Milk:		
Condensed.....	1,322,220	8,575,334
Evaporated.....	5,757,811	23,617,129
Pounds		
Canned meats:		
Beef.....	36,662,467	13,497,822
Meat food products and rations.....	488,014	81,459
Pork.....	105,758,175	38,100,409
Vienna sausage and potted meat.....	3,000,024	1,273,343
Gallons		
Concentrated juices:		
Grapefruit.....	100,000	325,000
Lemon.....	81,795	284,977
Orange.....	1,369,495	5,228,824

In-plant Feeding Boosts Morale

Some seven million workers in manufacturing industries are now being served food in their own plants as compared with only two million before the war, according to industrial feeding specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Department states that the increased industrial feeding has boosted morale and reduced accidents.

A typical report made recently by one large manufacturing concern states that in one of its divisions the absenteeism rate stood at 8.4 per cent before the new cafeteria in the plant was opened. During a comparable period after the cafeteria was in use, absenteeism was only 3.1 per cent. The rate of accidents in the year before the opening of the cafeteria was 12.4 per cent, and in the year following was only 8.5 per cent.

CANNED POULTRY ORDER

Production Opened for Civilian Market; Suspended for Government

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, on July 31, announced suspension until October 1, 1945, of poultry canning operations for the Government under the terms of War Food Order 125. The action, effective August 1, will permit the nation's canning facilities to be used until October 1, for the preparation of canned chicken and canned chicken products for civilians.

Canners have operated under WFO 125 since February 14, 1945, when a requirement of 70 million pounds of canned poultry for the armed forces was announced. Production under the order has been better than expected and the supply of canned chicken thus exceeds governmental needs for the next few weeks, USDA states.

Set-aside provisions of the order pertaining to processed and canned poultry produced before the suspension will remain in effect.

While the supply of poultry suitable for products wanted by the U. S. armed forces is now very scarce, other grades and classes suitable for canning are available. By suspending the order temporarily it will be possible for canners to produce such products as chicken soup, chicken a la king, chicken with noodles, and other similar chicken products for civilian use.

Because the armed forces are expected to require additional canned chicken, the order is scheduled to again become fully effective October 1 when there will be sufficient poultry for continuous operation of the canning plants.

Revised Set-aside Percentages

Product	Percentage of base pack				Old total
	Spec- reserve	Conti- gency reserve	New total	reserve	
Apples.....	72	8	80	80	
Applesauce.....	42*	6*	48*	54	
Apricots.....	58	3	61	61	
Blueberries.....	90	10	100	100	
Cherries, sweet....	130	10	140	140	
Figs.....	22	3	25	25	
Fruit cocktail.....	75	5	80	80	
Peaches.....	42*	10*	52*	54	
Pears.....	50*	10*	60*	64	
Pineapple.....	70	10	80	80	
Pineapple juice....	56*	10*	66*	70	
Plums and prunes (fresh and Italian)	26*	10*	36*	48	
	removed from order				25

CANNED VEGETABLES AND JUICES				
Asparagus.....	61	4	65	65
Beans, lima.....	31*	3*	34*	36
Beans, snap.....	42	7	50	50
Beets.....	46*	6*	46*	52
Carrots.....	85	10	95	95
Corn, sweet.....	36*	6*	42*	44
Peas.....	32*	5*	38*	43
Potatoes, sweet....	41	6	47	47
Pumpkin or squash	38*	6*	44*	46
Sauerkraut.....	33*	7*	40*	70
Spinach.....	60*	7*	76*	77
Tomatoes.....	55	8	63	63
Tomato catsup....	31*	6*	37*	47
Tomato juice.....	10*	6*	16*	27
Tomato paste.....	25	3	28	28
Tomato puree....	removed from order			22

* Indicates items for which set-aside percentages have been changed.

Canned Foods Get Zero Points

Upon the recommendation of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Office of Price Administration has announced zero ration point values for canned tomato juice, mixed vegetable juices, grapefruit juice, and blended citrus juice, effective August 5. The agencies stated that the announcement was made at this time because information of reduced military requirements was not available when the table of point values for August was issued by OPA last week.

Production in 1945 and 1946 of the canned juices affected by this action is expected to be much larger than during pre-war years. Coupled with the production increase, there is a substantial decrease in the amount of tomato juice, to be set aside for military use. As a result of these factors, sufficient quantities of canned tomato juice, mixed vegetable juice, grapefruit juice, and blended citrus juices is available to provide equitable civilian distribution of these products without ration points, USDA and OPA said.

Exports of Rationed Foods

Persons sending gifts of rationed foods to civilians in other countries hereafter must give ration points for

them, but gifts of rationed food to service men abroad will continue, as usual, to go ration-free, the Office of Price Administration has announced. The action, taken in Amendment 4 to Supplement 1 to General Ration Order 17, became effective July 31.

Early Potato Ceilings Unchanged

Ceiling prices for winter and spring crop early white potatoes grown during the 1945-46 season will be the same as those in effect during the past season, except as temporarily adjusted for crop disasters, the Office of Price Administration said July 30. Provision for continuation of last year's ceiling prices was made when ceiling prices were established for all other white potatoes on an annual basis through the issuance of Amendment 40 to Revised Maximum Price Regulation 271 on June 28.

USDA Reorganization Due Soon

Reorganization of the U. S. Department of Agriculture along "commodity lines" which would place all matters pertaining to a given product under a central authority instead of scattering it among several agencies within the Department is reported to be well advanced. It is believed the plan will be ready for submission to Secretary Clinton P. Anderson on his return next week from a western trip.

Such a reorganization would entail numerous changes of personnel and possibly would be one of the most extensive overhauls USDA has ever had.

Chester C. Davis, former War Food Administrator, has been called in to aid in setting up the plan and Mr. Anderson also has added to his staff of consultants on reorganization Alexander Nunn of Birmingham, Ala., managing editor of the *Progressive Farmer*, and Arthur Moore, Chicago, editor of the *Prairie Farmer*.

More Farm Labor Placements

Farm labor placements made by county agricultural agents and farm labor placement officers during the first six months of 1945 were 33 per cent greater than for the same period in 1944, according to reports to the U. S. Department of Agriculture Extension Service. In filling 1,645,279 farm jobs, assistance was given to 250,000 farmers. During the month of June 640,216 placements were made compared with 590,476 in June, 1944.

Farm labor placements made during the first six months of 1945 included the filling of 124,318 year round farm jobs and 1,520,961 seasonal jobs.

Refrigerator Cars May Now Be Used for Merchandise Freight

Refrigerator cars may now be used for direct shipment of five tons or more of merchandise freight to certain western States under a general permit issued by the Office of Defense Transportation.

The action was taken in order to stimulate the movement of refrigerator cars to the western fruit and vegetable producing areas where such cars are in urgent demand for eastbound shipment of perishable foodstuffs, the ODT said.

Use of refrigerator cars for merchandise freight will also aid in better utilization of the present short supply of boxcars.

The General Permit, ODT 1-6, which became effective August 1, modifies the provisions of General Order ODT No. 1, to allow the use of any RS type of refrigerator car for the shipment of not less than five tons of merchandise freight, "when such car is forwarded westward to any destination in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington or Wyoming, or to El Paso, Texas, and moves in the direction in the normal flow of empty refrigerator cars: *Provided, however*, That any such car shall move from point of origin direct to point of destination, by-passing all transfer stations and not stopping for transfer of the freight enroute."

Canned Milk Statistics

In establishing a new all-time monthly high, production of canned evaporated milk in June totaled 477,124,000 pounds, the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported July 30. Although this production was only about one-half million pounds larger than the May production, it was approximately 64 million pounds, or 16 per cent, larger than the June production of last year and 138.9 million pounds, or 41 per cent, larger than the 5-year (1939-43) June average. For the first 6 months of 1945, production of canned evaporated milk totaled 2,173,151,000 pounds, 20 per cent larger than the production of the same period last year.

Production of canned condensed milk in June totaled 15,387,000 pounds. This was 3 per cent less than the May production of this year, 5 per cent less than in June of last year, but double the 5-year (1939-43) June average. Production for the first 6 months in 1945, at 74,062,000 pounds, was 2 per cent smaller than during the corresponding period of last year.

NO ALLEVIATION OF FOOD SHORTAGES IS EXPECTED WITHIN NEXT 12 MONTHS, ACCORDING TO USDA REPORT

Prospects for Canned, Frozen Fruits, Juices, Vegetables and Fish Are Summarized

No significant relief from shortages of civilian food supplies is in prospect for the next 12 months, according to the monthly report on the national food situation issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The report agrees substantially with Secretary Clinton P. Anderson's July 16 broadcast, which was reported in INFORMATION LETTER No. 1046, for July 21, page 8704, except that it carries the forecast over a year's period instead of confining it to the balance of 1945.

The report also goes into more specific detail regarding various classifications of food, as presented in the following excerpts:

Canned fruits—The prospective civilian supply of canned fruits in 1945-46 is much the same as the quantity consumed during the 1944-45 pack year, about 10 pounds per capita. Smaller stocks at the beginning of the pack year and a probable slight decrease in packs will about offset the small increase in imports and the probable small decrease in military takings. The continued small civilian supply would fall quite short of what consumers would buy if the supply were larger and not rationed.

The domestic pack of canned fruits may total about 2,000 million pounds, or 47 million cases of 24 No. 2½ cans, compared with 48 million cases in 1944-45. Peaches, apricots and pears are expected to comprise about one-half of the domestic pack. Imports of canned pineapple, olives, and other fruits are likely to reach 500 million pounds. About half of the supply of canned fruits available for consumption (i.e., excluding minimum working stocks) will go to the armed forces. A small amount is scheduled for the military forces of our allies and only a negligible quantity for other exports. Thus, civilian supplies will continue to be about ½ of the 1935-39 average consumption.

Canned fruit juices—The total canned fruit juice supplies for civilian consumption will continue to be sufficient to fill consumer demand and are of record size. Certain juices will be short, but others, particularly citrus, will be plentiful. Civilian consumption of canned fruit juices per capita has increased greatly, from 4 pounds in 1935-39 to about 10.3 pounds in 1945.

Military requirements are taking about 30 per cent of the year's total supply of canned fruit juices, over 500 million pounds. They have increased each year during the war because they are satisfactory for troop feeding, as well as popular with service men. Canned citrus juices retain a fairly

high proportion of the vitamin C of the fresh fruit.

Total supplies of commercially canned fruit juices for the 1944-45 season ending late next fall (roughly the 1945 calendar year) are indicated to be about 2.3 billion pounds (the equivalent of about 55 million cases of 24 No. 2½ cans). Supplies for the 1943-44 season amounted to about 2.2 billion pounds. Total supplies for the 1944-45 season include a domestic pack of about 1.7 billion pounds, carry-in stocks of about 300 million pounds, and in-shippments and imports of about 250 million pounds. Most of the domestic pack of canned fruit juices consists of citrus, and most of the in-shippments are pineapple. Preliminary indications point to a domestic pack for the 1945-46 season about equal in size to the 1944-45 pack.

Frozen fruits—Production of commercially frozen fruit in 1945 is expected to be about as large as the record pack of 330 million pounds in 1944, and about three times the 5-year (1935-39) average of 106 million pounds. About 15 per cent of the supply goes to the military, and the remainder to civilians whose supply in 1945 is expected to average about 2.2 pounds per capita, compared with 1.9 pounds in 1944 and 0.7 pounds, the average for 1935-39.

Canned vegetables—The supply of canned vegetables available for civilian consumption in the 1945-46 pack year may be about 29-31 pounds per capita, about ¼ smaller than in the previous year, a little less than the average for the 5 years (1935-39), and the smallest since the middle thirties. This reduction from previous levels comes about—despite a probable pack this year about the same size as in 1944-45—primarily as a consequence of reduced commercial stocks on hand at the beginning of this pack year, and continued heavy takings for the U. S. military and war services.

In spite of some demobilization, military requirements for canned vegetables remain high for this pack year because of the necessity for filling the long "pipe-lines" to the Pacific war areas. It is expected that exports and shipments of canned vegetables in 1945-46 will be considerably below the previous pack year when about 210 million pounds went for uses other than military or U. S. civilian consumption. Much of the domestic demand for canned vegetables is not being met and the economy and nutritional value per pound of other foodstuffs such as cereals are superior for relief feeding purposes.

Frozen vegetables—Because of some increase in military requirements, the civilian supply of frozen vegetables may be slightly smaller in this calendar year than in 1944, when per capita consumption was about 1.6 pounds. Military requirements in 1945 for frozen

vegetables, however, call for less than one-seventh of the total supply. The effect upon available supplies of estimated increases in the pack of frozen vegetables this year compared with 1944 is about offset by the effect of lower stocks at the beginning of 1945. Foreign trade in frozen vegetables is virtually non-existent.

Canned fish—Civilian supplies of canned fish in 1945-46 may be about 30 per cent smaller than in 1944-45 despite a slightly larger pack. On a per capita basis, civilian consumption this fiscal year may be about 1.5 pounds, compared with 2.4 pounds last year, and the 5.4-pound average in 1935-39. Of the total 1945-46 pack, the U. S. military and war services are tentatively indicated to receive 35 per cent; Lend-lease and other exports and shipments, excluding liberated areas, 20 per cent; liberated areas, 12 per cent (composed of sardines, mackerel, squid, and groundfish); and civilians the remainder. The reduction in the over-all civilian supply of canned fish is principally in salmon, sardines, pilchards, and mackerel. Most of the packs of shellfish, tuna, and other varieties of fish will be available for civilians.

Fresh and frozen fish—Domestic landings of fish for the fresh and frozen markets may be about 810 million pounds (dressed weight) in 1945-46, 10 per cent more than in 1944-45. About 40 per cent of the total supply of fresh and frozen fish comes from New England landings. During the first six months of 1945 landings in this area were 16 per cent greater than in the same period of 1944. Net increases have also been made in landings from some of the other ports.

The importation of fresh and frozen fish in 1945 may also be increased. Imports of fresh and frozen fish last year are estimated at about 130 million pounds in dressed weight equivalents. About 95 per cent of these were from Canada and the remainder from Iceland, Newfoundland, and Greenland. Imports in 1945 may increase as much as 10 million pounds over those of 1944.

The procurement of fresh and frozen fish, mostly frozen fish, for the armed forces has amounted to about 10 per cent of the total supply. Most of civilian consumption this year of six pounds or so per capita (dressed weight) will be in the form of fresh fish. Cold storage holdings on June 1 were down 42 per cent from June 1, 1944. Current demand has been so strong that much smaller quantities have been frozen. Smaller supplies of frozen fish will tend to reduce the consumption of fish in the inland areas. Most of the fresh fish is eaten in the coastal and Great Lakes areas. Unless production of frozen fish is much greater in the next few months, reserve stocks of frozen fish may be quite short through the winter. Production of frozen fish reaches its seasonal peak in the months of June, July, August, and September, and is low during the winter.

Florida Citrus Cannery Study Methods of Saving Vitamin C

Chemists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, cooperating with the Florida Citrus Commission and the Florida Cannery Association, have been investigating ways to prevent or retard oxidation in canned citrus juices in order to conserve vitamin C.

As a result of their studies, the chemists have suggested five important ways to conserve the vitamin. One is to avoid copper valves and fittings in canning equipment, because copper acts as a catalyst or accelerator in the oxidation of the vitamin. Another way is to keep all possible air from juices during the entire canning process, and to deaerate juice before pasteurizing, because heat hastens oxidation. A high vacuum in the can and the least possible headspace also help save vitamin C. Finally, the chemists recommend a cool storage temperature for the juices after they are canned.

Recent tests of canned grapefruit juice in Florida show that the canned juice holds an average of 97 per cent of the vitamin C of freshly extracted juice.

Hearing on Mackerel "Lay-overs"

Representatives of boat-owners fishing for mackerel out of Gloucester appeared Wednesday before the Federal Trade Commission petitioning the Commission to vacate their order to the industry to desist from lay-overs between trips and any other means of restricting the quantity of the catch. The boat-owners stated at the hearing that the lay-over practice had been adopted to control glut of fish which shore-workers were unable to process.

Grower Peach Ceiling Raised

An increase of 61¢ a bushel in the grower price for fresh peaches in eight Atlantic Seaboard States and West Virginia for the period August 1 to 20, was authorized August 1 by the Office of Price Administration.

In addition to West Virginia, the increase applies for peaches grown in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Following are the new ceiling prices f.o.b. country shipping point compared with the former prices:

Graded and packed in standard bushel container, \$4.25, old price, \$3.64; graded and packed in standard half bushel container, \$2.33, old price \$1.98; graded and packed in non-standard container,

8.8¢ a pound, old price, 7.5¢; orchard-run packed in any container, 7.9¢ a pound, old price 6.8¢.

The increase is mandatory under the Stabilization Extension Act, which provides for ceiling prices to be increased when yields are substantially reduced by unfavorable growing conditions.

Export Price Order Revised

When persons who sell government-subsidized commodities to exporters are required by the subsidizing agency to refund the amount of the subsidy, they may pass along its amount to the exporter as a ceiling price increase, the Office of Price Administration announces.

The action, taken in Amendment 19 to Second Revised Maximum Export Price Regulation, and effective August 1, was necessary to align the export price regulation with administrative procedures of government agencies in charge of subsidy programs, particularly in the case of refined sugar sold for export, OPA said.

Under the refund procedures adopted by the Commodity Credit Corporation, refiners who sell refined sugar to exporters are required to make the refund. OPA's export price regulation already allowed exporters to increase their ceiling prices where they make the refund themselves, but this action was necessary to enable their suppliers to do likewise, OPA explained.

The same rule applies, OPA stated, where the subsidizing agency withholds the subsidy on commodities for export, instead of paying it and then requiring refund.

Fresh Fish Price Revision

A slightly downward revision of prices on fresh and frozen fish caught off the Pacific Coast was effected July 30 by the Office of Price Administration in Amendment 8 to MPR 579.

The revision applies principally to halibut, salmon, smelt, tuna, Pacific flounders and cod and while fishermen's prices remain generally unchanged, changes were made in wholesaler's and distributor's mark-ups and in allowances on container, delivery and storage.

Fruit Mixes Under Sugar Order

The maximum Brix content of 17.9 degrees permitted fruit cocktail under the provisions of Second Revised Ration Order 3 also applies to fruit mixes and fruit salads, the Office of Price Administration has advised the Association. The question arose when some canners

inquired as to whether fruit combinations similar to fruit cocktail were governed by the same regulations as fruit cocktail under the sugar order.

Cornell to Offer Four-year Course in Food Processing

The New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University will offer a four-year course in food processing, with emphasis on fruits and vegetables, starting this November when the fall semester opens.

In announcing the new course, Dean W. I. Myers of the college said the aim is to give broad training in the food processing field for students who wish to prepare for plant, field, office or sales work in the industry.

Completion of 120 hours of course work during the four years will lead to the degree of Bachelor of Science. A farm practice requirement, also, calls for the equivalent of at least one year of farm work or a combination of work on a farm and in a processing plant. This requirement must be satisfied by the beginning of the senior year, and can be accomplished in three summer vacation periods.

The curriculum features considerable training in chemistry and the agricultural sciences and permits electives over a broad field that includes work in food processing, chemical and biological control, business aspects of the processing industry, and work in the production and handling of crops for processing.

Establishment of the new training course came as a result of a study by a special committee of the college and the educational committee of the Association of New York State Cannerymen, which has desired trained personnel in the food field, particularly the canning and freezing industries.

Educational committee of the cannerymen consists of F. L. Shannon, chairman and Arthur Nash, secretary, both of Rochester. Other members are J. E. Fix, American Can Co.; Howard Cumming and C. L. Lathrop of Curtice Bros. Canning Co., Rochester; Ralph Claridge of the Taylor Instrument Co.; Stuart Hemingway, H. C. Hemingway Canning Co., Auburn; Leo Naughton, Haxton Canning Co., Oakfield; F. K. Farrar, Comstock Canning Co., Newark; Dr. K. G. Dykstra of Birdseye-Snyder Division, General Foods, Albion; and Wilbur G. Eans of the Continental Can Co.

Details of the curriculum and requirements and procedure for enrollment may be obtained by writing direct to the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, Ithaca.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT

(Concluded from page 8710)

Bureau of Standards to a more suitable status elsewhere in the Department of Commerce. The work of these groups should continue, but on the levels of research and technical consultation. Their research should include studies of the economies that might result for consumers from performance and operational standards; the determination of consumers' reactions to performance standards used in merchandising; surveys to determine the need for standards in consumer and commercial fields. Assistance should be freely given to groups seeking help in formulating standards, but the Department should be free of responsibility for the results.

"Under this new functional assignment, the National Bureau of Standards would be equipped to furnish physical data for standards, while the Department would be prepared to supplement such material with economic and marketing information. In both these phases of standards work the facilities of the National Bureau of Standards (or the Department) would be directed to basic research for facts needed by any responsible groups engaged in formulating standards or desiring to initiate standards. (Among such groups would be included the co-operating groups of the American Standards Association.) Furthermore, Bureau and Departmental personnel would be charged with giving technical counsel, and would be encouraged to participate directly in standardizing activities of various public interest bodies. The Department would abstain from promoting new standards on its own initiative and would avoid any attempt itself to compete as a national clearing house."

The foregoing recommendations, the report states, are based on two assumptions:

"First, that interested groups are best qualified to initiate and formulate voluntary standards.

"Second, that the American Standards Association can and will in due time develop adequate capacity, 'know how,' and status for performing the necessary functions of nation-wide clearance and promotional guidance."

In a letter transmitting the report of the Committee, Chairman C. E. Wilson stated that questions which are apparently new and unanswered today are:

"What kinds of consumer standards are needed? Should they be the 'minimum standard' or the 'commercial standard' or both? In such standards is 'par' the level to be reached or to be beaten?

"Again, does this protection of the public require a more comprehensive formal acceptance for a standards adoption, or some form of laboratory testing standard and labeling?

"These are some of the problems to be worked out, and to do so will probably require a continuing flexibility of procedure between all parts of industry affected by standards. Their solution will require experience and the thorough understanding of all. Time also will be required, and only through unified action can any plan succeed."

The Committee's report was accompanied by a supporting memorandum, excerpts from which follow:

"Inasmuch as the development of standards for food and drugs is assigned by Federal statute to the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Agriculture, and since the development of specifications and standards for purchases by Federal Government departments is assigned by statute to the Federal Specifications Board, standards developed for food and drugs and specifications for Federal purchases have never been presented to the American Standards Association for approval as American Standards.

"Similarly, standards play a rapidly increasing role in private business transactions, being used in purchase specifications for materials or equipment to be used in industrial processes or in commercial operations, or being used by distributors, especially retailers, in the purchase of merchandise for resale to their ultimate consumer customers. To an increasing extent, not yet widespread, the consuming public is becoming aware of the meaning of standards for consumer goods—especially aware of labels or other forms of certification that a product meets some standard.

"The right of the retailer and the right of his customer to adequate information regarding the products they buy should be and is now widely recognized by industrial executives. Retail customers continue to press for information regarding the performance characteristics and serviceability of merchandise. Laboratory and service testing is becoming more general, together with more objective methods of test. This trend leads to use of standard definitions, standard terms for describing products, and other standards for consumer goods. Thus used, these constitute a somewhat new and increasingly important merchandising process or technique, and stimulate competition in improvement of products, their performance or serviceability."

The Policy Committee on Standards grew out of a Conference on Standardization called on January 12, 1945, by the Secretary of Commerce through the Visiting Committee of the National Bureau of Standards.

Wayne C. Taylor, formerly Under Secretary of Commerce, appointed the Committee, designating Charles E. Wilson, president of the General Electric Co., as chairman. Other members of the Committee are Frederick M. Felker, dean of engineering, George Washington University; Clarence Francis,

chairman of the board, General Foods Co.; Ephraim Freedman, R. H. Macy and Co.; Frank B. Jewett, president of the National Academy of Science; William B. Warner, president of the McCall Corporation; Arthur D. Whiteside, president, Dun and Bradstreet, Inc.; and R. E. Zimmerman, vice president, United States Steel Corp.

The opinions and recommendations presented in the detailed report of the Committee and accompanying documents reveal that the work on standardized terms for use on canned foods labels now being done under the guidance of the Association's Labeling Committee is in full accord with the principles and procedures recommended by the Policy Committee on Standards.

Bill Would Transfer Powers of OPA to USDA Secretary

A bill (S. 1326) has been introduced by Senator Tom Stewart of Tennessee which would give the Secretary of Agriculture full authority to direct Office of Price Administration policies on food and livestock feed. The Secretary would be empowered to issue directives which the Price Administrator would have to follow in releasing regulations for maximum prices or rationing of food. Full text of the bill follows:

A bill to transfer to the Secretary of Agriculture control over and responsibility for price control and rationing for food and feed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to provide effective coordination and centralized responsibility for the activities of government agencies relating to the production and distribution of foods, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to determine and prescribe the policies to be followed and the actions to be taken by the Price Administrator, after the date of enactment of this Act, with respect to the rationing of food. The Secretary of Agriculture shall, from time to time, issue directives prescribing, in such form, manner, and detail as the Secretary may determine and subject to limitations imposed by law, the policies to be followed and the actions to be taken by the Price Administrator with respect to maximum prices for food and the rationing of food; and the Price Administrator shall comply with such directives. Any regulation or order of the Price Administrator shall comply with such directives. Any regulation or order of the Price Administrator shall be invalid to the extent that it is inconsistent with such directives. As used in this Act, the term "food" means any commodity used or useful for food or feed or for processing into food or feed.